

**REMARKS**

Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and remarks herein.

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1, 6-12, 15, and 17-36 will be pending. By this amendment, claims 2, 4, 5, and 14 have been canceled; and claims 1, 12, 31, 35, and 36 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

**§103 Rejection of Claims 1, 2, 4-12, 14, 15, and 17-36**

In the Final Office Action of April 4, 2006 (“the Office Action”), claims 1, 2, 4-12, 14, 15, and 17-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lumera *et al.* (U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0093377; hereinafter referred to as “Lumera”) in view of Fenton *et al.* (U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0194,195; hereinafter referred to as “Fenton”) and further in view of Lai *et al.* (U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0032348; hereinafter referred to as “Lai”), Higgins (U.S. Patent No. 5,270,922), Tabbara *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,460,043; hereinafter referred to as “Tabbara”), and Love *et al.* (U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0215725).

A response was filed on July 12, 2006. An Advisory Action was issued on August 8, 2006 stating that the argument made in the response was not persuasive.

Claim 1 has been amended to include subject matters of claims 2, 4, and 5. Claim 12 has been amended to include subject matter of claim 14. Claims 31, 35, and 36 have been amended to include similar subject matters.

The cited prior art references, individually or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all limitations of amended claims.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of claims 1, 6-12, 15, and 17-36 in view of the remarks and submit that all pending claims are presently in condition for allowance.

In the event that additional cooperation in this case may be helpful to complete its prosecution, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact Applicant's representative at the telephone number written below.

Respectfully submitted,  
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